(e) Since census was not conducted in Jammu & Kashmir in 1991, the migration rate could not be computed.

(f) Question does not arise.

Delay in release of census report

602. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that release of Census Report was delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have constituted an enquiry committee in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Increase in criminal activities in the country

603. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of criminal activity is on the rise in the country, particularly against women;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the dominant cause for such crimes;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what measures are proposed to be taken to ensure safety and check exploitation of women in general and employed women in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) As per the statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, crimes under the Indian Penal Code in the country registered an increase during 2002 (1780330 cases) in

comparison to 2001 (1769308 cases). Total crimes against women showed an increase in 2002 (147678 cases) over 2001 (143795 cases).

(b) and (c) Some studies on crimes against women have been conducted. Some of the factors responsible for crime against women as per these studies are economic, social and cultural, lack of awareness, illiteracy, etc.

(d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subject. However, the Government of India has from time to time been advising the State Governments to take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against women and other vulnerable sections of society. In an advisory sent to the State Governments on 5th May, 2004, they have been requested, *inter-alia*, to take the following measures to check crime against women:

(i) Identification of crime prone areas and to put in a place a mechanism to monitor infractions in schools/colleges to ensure safety and security of female students,

(ii) Registration of FIR in all cases of crime against women,

(iii) Prominent exhibition of help-line numbers of the crime against women cells at public places,

(iv) Setting up of women police cells in the police stations and exclusive women police stations, where necessary, and

(v) Adequate training of police personnel in special laws who deal with against women.

In an order dated 13.08.97 in Visakha & others *vs.* State of Rajasthan & others, the Hon'ble Supreme Court laid down the norms and guidelines to be followed by all employers whether private or Government, for tackling the incidents of sexual harassment of women at workplace and other institution. The Hon'ble Supreme Court had also declared in its judgement that the guidelines and norms laid down therein against sexual harassment of women at work places should be treated as the law declared by that Court under Article 141 of the Constitution of India, until a legislation is enacted for the purpose. The National Commission for Women, the Department of Women and Child Development and a host of women's organizations have been propagating these guidelines for effective enforcement.

Amendments have been made in the CCS (Conduct) Rules and in the Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Rules in pursuance of the judgement to make sexual harassment a prohibited conduct.

Simplification of visa rules between India and Pakistan

†604. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to simplify the visa regime for the tourists, doctors, scholars and recognized journalists of Pakistan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistan has also expressed its desire to simplify visa regime for Indian tourists, journalists, doctors and scholars; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes Sir. The Government of India has simplified the visa regime for doctors, scholars and recognized journalists of Pakistan recently. There is no provision of Tourist Visa in the Indo-Pak Visa Agreement.

(b) The details of simplified visa regime for doctors, scholars and recognised journalists of Pakistan is as under:

(i) Medical doctors, if accompanying patients for treatment at leading hospitals are issued visas without prior reference to Ministry of Home Affairs and are exempted from Police Reporting.

(ii) Accredited journalists with minimum three years accredition with national or international media of repute and academicians and professors, Vice-Chancellors and those coming on the invitation of reputed Universities/Institutions are granted Multiple Entry Visa Facility with Exemption from Police Reporting without prior reference to Ministry of Home Affairs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.